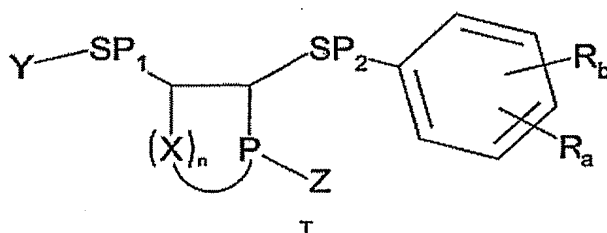


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended): A compound according to formula I



wherein

P represents -N< or -C=,

~~X represents independently of each other -CH₂-, CR₁-(Sp₂-hybridised), O-, NH-, -N-, CO- or CS-, wherein R₁ represents H or NR₂, wherein R₂ represents H or lower alkyl, which optionally is linked to Z such that a bicyclic structure is formed;~~

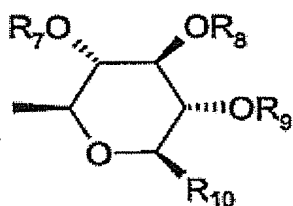
(X)_n represents -OOC-, -COO-, -CONH-, -CH=N-;

~~n represents 1 or 2;~~

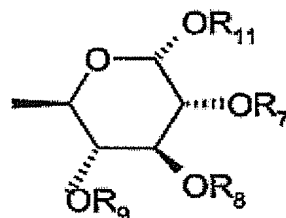
R_a represents H, lower alkyl, -OR₃, -O (CO) R₃, -O (CO) OR₃, -O (CO) NR₃R₄, -N₃R₄, -NR₃ (CO) R₄, -COOR₃, -CONR₃R₄, -CH=CHCOOR₃, -CF₃, -CN, -NO₂, SO₃H, PO₃H or halogen, wherein R₃ and R₄ represent H or lower alkyl,

R_b represents H, OH, -OSO₂Me, -OSO₂W wherein W represents optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl, -OCO(CHOH)₂COOR₅ wherein R₅ represents H or lower alkyl; or represents the formula -Sp₃-R₆,

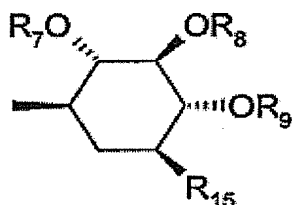
wherein Sp₃ represents a covalent bond, -O-, -OCH₂-, -OSO₂CH₂-, -OSO₂-, -OSO₂-(p) C₆H₄O- and R₆ represents one of carbohydrate structures A-D:



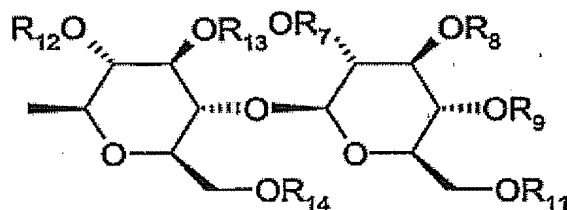
A



B



C



D

wherein

R_7 , R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} , R_{12} , R_{13} and R_{14} represent independently of each other H, lower alkyl, aryl(lower alkyl), -CO-lower alkyl, -CO-aryl, -SO₃⁻ or -PO₃⁻,

R_{10} represents -CH₂OR₁₆ or -COOR₁₇, and

R_{15} represents -CH₂OR₁₆, -COOR₁₇, -CH₂NH₂, -CH₂OPO₃⁻ or -CH₂OSO₃⁻, wherein R_{16} and R_{17} independently of each other represent H, lower alkyl, aryl (lower alkyl), -CO-lower alkyl, -CO-aryl, -SO₃⁻ or -PO₃⁻,

Z represents optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl,

Sp₁ represents a ~~spacer unit, such as a straight chain or branched~~ lower alkyl group -(CH₂)_p-, wherein p is from 2-6, which is unsubstituted, mono or poly- substituted by -OH, -OR₁₈, halogen or cyano group, wherein one or more -CH₂- groups may independently be replaced by -O-, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -NR₁₉-, -NR₁₉-CO-, -CO-NR₁₉-, -CH=CH-, -C≡C- and wherein R₁₈ and R₁₉ represent a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl;

Sp₂ represents an ~~optional spacer unit, such as a covalent bond or a straight chain or branched~~ lower alkyl group -(CH₂)_q-, wherein q is from 1-6, which is unsubstituted, mono or poly-substituted by -OH, -OR₂₀, halogen or cyano group, wherein one or

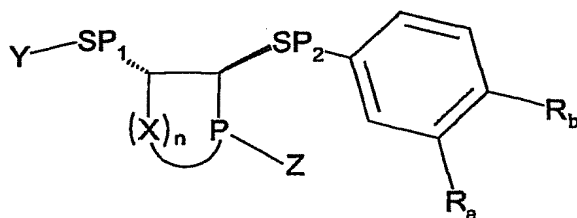
more $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups may independently be replaced by $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{CO}-$, $-\text{CO}-\text{O}-$, $-\text{O}-\text{CO}-$, $-\text{NR}_{21}-$, $-\text{NR}_{21}-\text{CO}-$, $-\text{CO}-\text{NR}_{21}-$, $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$ and wherein R_{20} , and R_{21} , represents a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl;

Y represents optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl;

with the proviso, that if $\text{P} = \text{N} <$, $n=1$, $\text{X} = \text{CO}$ and Sp_2 represents a covalent bond, R_6 may not represent carbohydrate structures A or D for $\text{Sp}_3 = \text{O}$ and R_6 may not represent carbohydrate B for $\text{Sp}_3 = \text{OCH}_2-$.

2 - 6. (Cancelled).

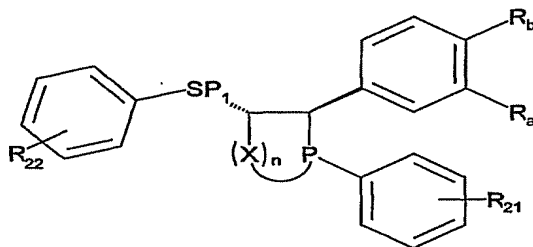
7. (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 1, having the formula IVa



IVa

wherein P is $-\text{N} =$ and $(\text{X})_n$ is $-\text{OOC}-$, $-\text{COO}-$, $-\text{CONH}-$, $-\text{CH}=\text{N}-$, and wherein R_a , R_b , Sp_1 , Sp_2 , P , X , Y , Z and n are as defined in claim 1.

8. (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 1 having the formula IVb,



IVb

wherein P is $-N=$ and $(X)_n$ is $-OOC-$, $-COO-$, $-CONH-$, $-CH=N-$, and

wherein R_a , R_b , Sp_1 , P , X and n are as defined hereinabove and wherein R_{21} and R_{22} represent H, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy or halogen.

9 -12. (Cancelled).

13. (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

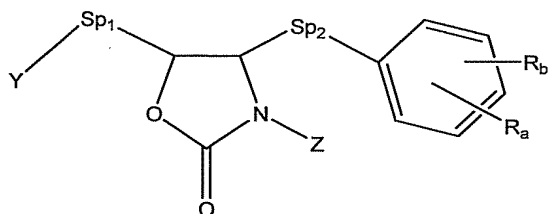
14. (Original): A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 for the treatment or prevention of arteriosclerosis or for the reduction of cholesterol levels.

15. (Original): A kit comprising a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 for use in the treatment or prevention of arteriosclerosis or for the reduction of cholesterol levels.

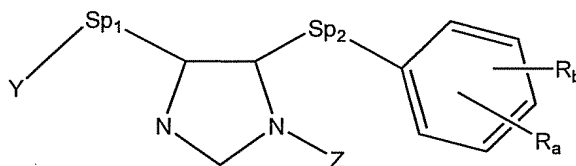
16. (Previously Presented): A method for the treatment or prevention of arteriosclerosis or for the reduction of cholesterol levels comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (New) A compound according to claim 1 having the formula IIIa or formula IIId



IIIa



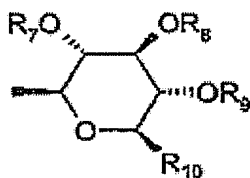
IIIId

wherein,

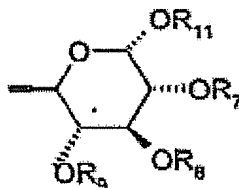
R_a represents H straight chain or branched C(1-8)alkyl, $-OR_3$, $-NR_3R_4$, $-COOR_3$, $-CONR_3R_4$, $-CH=CHCOOR_3$, $-CF_3$, $-CN$, $-NO_2$, SO_3H , PO_3H or halogen, wherein R_3 and R_4 represent independently of each other H or straight chain or branched C(1-8)alkyl,

R_b represents H, OH, $-OSO_2Me$, $-OSO_2W$ wherein W represents optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl, $OCO(CHOH)_2COOR_5$ wherein R_5 represents H or straight chain or branched C(1-8)alkyl; or represents the formula $-Sp_3-$ R_6 ,

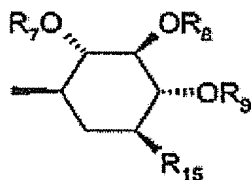
wherein Sp_3 represents a covalent bond, $-O-$, $-OCH_2-$, $-OSO_2CH_2-$, $-OSO_2-(p)C_6H_4O-$ and R_6 represents one of carbohydrate structures A-D:



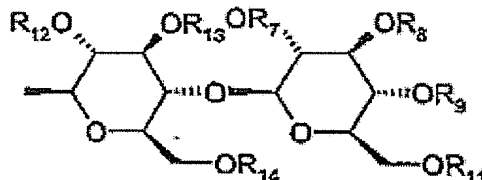
A



B



C



D

wherein,

R_7 , R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} , R_{12} , R_{13} and R_{14} represent independently of each other H, straight chain or branched C(1-8)alkyl, aryl(C(1-8)alkyl), $-CO-(C(1-8)alkyl)$, $-CO-aryl$, $-SO_3-$ or $-PO_3-$,

R_{10} represents $-CH_2OR_{16}$ or $-COOR_{17}$, and

R_{15} represents $-CH_2OR_{16}$, $COOR_{17}$, $-CH_2NH_2-$, CH_2OPO_3- or $-CH_2OSO_3-$,

wherein

R_{16} and R_{17} independently of each other represents H, straight chain or branched C(1-8)alkyl, aryl(C(1-8)alkyl), $-CO-(C(1-8)alkyl)$, $-CO-aryl$, $-SO_3-$ or $-PO_3-$,

Z represents optionally substituted aryl,

- Sp₁ represents a straight chain or branched alkyl group -(CH₂)_p-, wherein p is from 2-6, which is unsubstituted, mono or poly-substituted by -OH, -OR₁₈, halogen or cyano group, wherein one or more -CH₂- groups may independently be replaced by -O-, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -NR₁₉-, -NR₁₉-CO-, -CO-NR₁₉-, -CH=CH-, -C≡C-, -and wherein R₁₈ and R₁₉ represent a hydrogen atom or straight chain or branched C(1-8)alkyl;
- Sp₂ represents a covalent bond;
- Y represents optionally substituted aryl.

19. (New) A compound according to claim 18 wherein R_a is in the meta-position and R_b is in the para-position.

20. (New) A compound according to claim 18 wherein R_a is H, straight chain or branched C(1-8)alkyl, -OR₃, -NR₃R₄, -COOR₃, -CONR₃R₄ or halogen, wherein R₃ and R₄ represent independently of each other H or straight chain or branched C(1-8)alkyl.

21. (New) A compound according to claim 18 wherein R_b is H, OH, -OSO₂Me, OSO₂Ph; or the formula -Sp₃-R₆, wherein Sp₃, preferably represents a covalent bond, -O-, -OCH₂- or -OSO₂CH₂- and R₆ represents one of carbohydrate structures A-D, preferably carbohydrate structures A, B or D.

22. (New) A compound according to claim 18 wherein Sp₁ represents a lower alkyl -(CH₂)_m- group, which is unsubstituted, mono or poly-substituted by -OH, -OR₁₈, halogen or cyano group, wherein R₁₈ represents hydrogen or straight chain or branched C(1-8) alkyl and m is 1 to 3.

23. (New) A compound according to claim 18 wherein Y represents an optionally substituted phenyl group.

24. (New) A compound according to claim 18 wherein Z represents an optionally substituted phenyl group.

25. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 18 with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

26. (New) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25 for the treatment or prevention of arteriosclerosis or for the reduction of cholesterol levels.

27. (New) A kit comprising a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25 for use in the treatment or prevention of arteriosclerosis or for the reduction of cholesterol levels.

28. (New) A method for the treatment or prevention of arteriosclerosis or for the reduction of cholesterol levels comprising administering, to a subject in need of such treatment, an effective amount of a compound according to claim 18.